THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Edited by SYLVIA PANKHURST.

VOL. II.—NO. 32. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23RD, 1915. PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

Donations to be sent to Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Tchaykovsky, Langham House, Harrow, or Hon. Financial Sec., Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

All parcels to 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

MEETINGS LIST.

Friday, Oct. 22nd.

Bow Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Parliamentary Debate, Votes for Women.
Piggott St., 5 p.m., Miss Lynch.
Beckton Road, 5 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs. Gregory, Mrs. Drake.

Saturday, Oct. 23rd.

"Abbey Arms," 5 p.m., Mrs. Davies.
Vernon Rd. and Roman Rd., 4 p.m., Miss Rickard, Miss Lynch.

Sunday, Oct. 24th.

Hyde Park, 3 p.m., Miss O'Callaghan Mrs. Bouvier.
Poplar Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Mrs. Drake, and others.
Dock Gates, 11 a.m., Miss Manicom and others.
124 Barking Road, 3.30 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 25th.

Copenhagen Place, 5.30 p.m.. Miss Feek.
Bow Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Miss Lynch, and others.
175 Dalston Lane, 3 p.m., Mrs. Holloway, Miss Beamish.

Wednesday, Oct. 27th.

Chrisp Street, 8 p.m., Mrs. Drake, Miss Manicom.

Thursday, Oct. 28th.

St. George's Vestry Hall, Bloomsbury Miss Sylvia Pankhurst.
175 Dalston Lane, 8 p.m., Mrs. Shlette, Miss Beamish.
124 Barking Rd., 3 p.m.,
53 St. Leonard's St., 8 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.

Friday, Oct. 29th.

Bow Women's Hall, 8 p.m., International Debate.
Piggott Street, 6.30 p.m., Mr. S. Franklin.
Beckton Rd., 5 p.m., Miss Lynch.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Mrs. Drake.

Saturday, Oct. 30th.

Well Street, Morning Lane, 4 p.m., Miss Sylvia Pankhurst.
Morpeth St., 4.30 p.m., Miss Lynch.
Poplar Women's Hall, 7.30 p.m., Members' Social.

Sunday, Oct. 31st.

Victoria Park, 3.30 p.m., Miss Feek, Miss Manicom.
Dock Gates, 6 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Osborne St., 11.30 a.m., Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, Miss Lynch.
Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Special Meeting to form a branch of the Women's International League.

To reach Old Ford Road take an Old Ford 'bus (No. 8), which goes via the Marble Arch, Oxford St., the Bank and Liverpool St., or book to Old Ford Station on the North London Railway.

The calls on our four mother and baby centres, for milk, eggs, medicines, and doctoring and nursing care, are still very urgent. Will you help by sending us some money for this work?

Will you send us new laid eggs, arrowroot, barley, glaxo or virol?

We want:—For baby, four gowns, four barrows, two flannel bands, twelve napkins, three vests, and a cot blanket; for mother, two nightgowns, woollen shawl, three towels, two sheets, and a pair of pillow cases.

Mothers and Children should make a point of attending the weekly consultations with nurse and doctor at:—

400 Old Ford Rd., Bow, Mondays 2.30 p.m.; 20 Railway St., Poplar, Tuesdays 3 p.m.; 53 St. Leonard's St., Wednesdays 4.15 p.m.; 55 Fife Rd., Canning Town, Mondays, 2 to 4 p.m.

HELP THE CHILDREN. TREASURER'S APPEAL.

Ten years ago a little band of pioneers founded schools for mothers and infant consultations in face of opposition and lack of public support.

To-day they are hailed as Saviours of the Nation, and the official recognition of their labours is manifest in the excellent circulars issued by the Board of Education and Local Government Board, more especially that of July 29th, 1915, on the Notification of Births (Extension) Act, 1915, whereby the Local Government Board urges local authorities to take immediate steps in the interests of infant and maternal welfare, and promises grants up to 50 per cent. of establishment and maintenance expenses of clinics for this purpose.

The closing paragraphs of the circular are a direct appeal to the women of England to form themselves into committees through their local and central organisations, and to help local authorities to administer the Act.

We have lost 75,000 men killed, 25,000 missing, 250,000 wounded in eleven months of war. We are losing this year from 100,000-150.000 babies out of our annual gift of 800,000. Shall we not save the nation at home whilst our youth is shedding its life's blood abroad?

Next month. instead of the usual local elections, vacancies on the Councils are to be filled by co-option. Surely the City Fathers, occupied as they are with matters military, may safely leave baby saving to the City Mothers whom they shall invite to sit by their side for this special purpose!

A series of meetings should be held throughout the country to carry on the baby saving crusade, so that in every town, village and hamlet there shall be some place and time each week where every expectant and nursing mother and child in need may receive help and advice for the asking.

There is no time to be lost, for while we talk and deliberate, every half-hour five babies die, and many more are maimed to grow up one day to swell the ranks of the neglected million now so unfit as to be unable to serve their country in its need. Hundreds of women are ready to do their share, and await but the stimulus of the press and the platform, aye and the pulpit too, to start them on their war service to "save the future," for now indeed "the hope of the world lies with the children."

Here in the East End we are doing all humanly possible with our restaurants, for nursing and expectant mothers, milk depots, clinics for babies and mothers, and health talks, as well as our nursery which has now 35 bonnie babies.

The heaviest item is of course food and milk, and unfortunately it is impossible to secure Government grants for this. We are therefore entirely dependent on the practical sympathy of our subscribers.

We would urge upon these the very great help they can give us by regular subscriptions—in order that we may not each week have the anxiety of not knowing how to pay the bills.

We would thank all who have helped in the past, and would urge each one to try and interest a friend in the needs of the babies in one of the poorest parts of London.

BARBARA TCHAYKOVSKY, M.D.
Hon. Treas. E.L.F.S.

A POOR LITTLE INVALID.

A baby brought to be cared for at the "Mother's Arms."

The following typical cases are helped at our mother and baby centres:—

A widow, whose husband had worked 16 years for the L.C.C. and died after six weeks in hospital, leaving his wife and three children absolutely penniless. The youngest child is two years old and the woman was expecting another almost immediately. The L.C.C. said it could not help, the widow was anxious to keep off the parish and to keep together her home, which was very well kept. The two elder children went to relatives. We found a home for the youngest child and provided the mother with nourishment until the time of her confinement, when we arranged for her admission to a maternity home in the country. This woman nearly died at the time of her confinement, her serious condition resulting from grief at the loss of her husband. It will be several months before she will be able to undertake work of any kind. More help is needed.

Delicate child of eight months, father a coach painter, enlisted, but was discharged as medically unfit, father now earning intermittently up to £1 a week, 5/- rent to pay, child requires glaxo and careful treatment, receiving these at 'Mother's Arms.'

Premature baby, very small, came under our care from day of birth. We are giving free milk and care from clinic, child now doing well. Mother was a widow with two children. She married a second time and was deserted by her husband six weeks after marriage. Mother is also under our care. More help needed.

Mother of eleven children; husband died before birth of last child, which is now seven months old; mother having milk and other help from 'Mother's Arms.' Baby doing well.

Seven months old baby, an only child, wasting, only weighed 8½ lbs. at seven months. Brought to us for treatment. Taken into the nursery, given sea water plasma injections; is improving.

Child born February 7th. Brought to our notice next day. Nurse found neither food nor fire in the house, though mother a "bright little woman," and home very clean. We had to lend maternity outfit and provide milk, dinners, etc., for mother.

Poor woman has had eleven children, eldest 13 years, three are dead. Mother has a great struggle to get food for little ones, a baby coming every year. She is far from strong herself. She goes out to work right up to time the babies are born if she is able, and has often to go short of food even then. She says the eldest child, who is too small for her age, is a very good girl, and looks after the home whilst her mother is out at work. Baby has been ill and needed white of egg and water etc., now comes regularly to be weighed and is doing well.

Destitute mother and child, father enlisted, no allowance yet, we supplied milk and dinners.

Mother, young baby and four other children destitute, father enlisted three weeks ago, allowance not yet come through, we supplied dinners, milk and maternity outfit.

Woman supporting blind and invalid husband, with help of 7s. from parish, has four children. Case came to our knowledge day after birth of youngest. We supplied milk and dinners. Baby came into nursery when mother went back to work.

WILL you TAKE a COLLECTING BOX?

LEAGUE OF RIGHTS
For Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives and Relatives.
Full particulars from 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E..

The
Woman's Dreadnought.
Published by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes,
400 OLD FORD ROAD, BOW, E.
Telephone EAST 1787.

AGENTS:
INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE SHOP, 5 Duke Street, Charing Cross, W.C.; CITY AND SUBURBAN PUBLISHING Co., St. Bride's Churchyard, E.C.; Messrs. HORACE MARSHALL & Co., Temple Avenue, E.C.; MARLBOROUGH, 51 Old Bailey, E.C.; A. RITCHIE, Pembleton Row, Gough Square, E.C.; A. RAGGETT, Clark Street, Stepney.
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Vol. II. No. 32—Sat., Oct. 23rd, 1915.

Bravely and willingly we bear our share of the World's burdens. Why, then, deny us the right to Vote, which would dignify our labour and increase our Power of Service?

NEGLECTED MOTHERS.

The mothers and fathers and little brothers and sisters whose bread-winner has been killed in the War, to-day are left to starve.

When the Naval and Military Pensions Bill was postponed in the summer, it was said that the soldiers' and sailors' dependants should not suffer by the delay. But the promise has been broken, and 26 weeks after the dear son has been killed, the allowance comes to an end.

The deadlock that has brought destitution to many a stricken household is due to a disagreement between the Government and the majority of the House of Lords as to who is to provide the money for the pensions of relatives other than wives and children and for certain supplementary allowances to wives, widows and children and to disabled men.

The Government Bill, as originally drafted, gave no definite promise of money for any purpose, except for paying the salaries of a chairman and a vice-chairman.

The Lords have inserted amendments to provide Government money for the pensions and allowances and to make the Statutory committee, which is being set up to deal with pensions and allowances, a Government committee.

These amendments are opposed by the Government, and it has asked the support of the House of Commons in rejecting them.

When the Government drafted its Bill in the first place, its intention was that a large part of the necessary money could be obtained from the Prince of Wales's Fund, and since the Committee of the fund has definitely stated that the fund cannot be used for this purpose, the Government has gone on vaguely assuming that the money will be subscribed by charitable persons.

Lord Crewe, speaking in the House of Lords on the Government's behalf, explained that the intention of the Government was, to make, "a large single contribution from the Exchequer" to the funds of the Statutory Committee in case the money raised by voluntary contributions should not be enough to make the grants thought necessary till the end of the war.

How large the "single contribution" might be the Government has not indicated, but Lord Crewe has made it plain that the Government does not intend to make itself responsible for securing that the promised scale of allowances is maintained.

Both Lord Crewe and Mr. McKenna, who spoke for the Government in the House of Commons, ignored the question of the pensions to parents and relatives other than wives and children. They confined themselves entirely to allowances which it is proposed to make by way of supplement to the agreed Government scale of pensions to widows, children and disabled soldiers and sailors.

Lord Tenterden asked whether the Government would give the House a definite and binding assurance that any deficit in the funds available for distribution would invariably be made good by the State.

Lord Crewe replied: "Deficit from what? It is surely known to noble Lords that there is a Government scale payable by the War Office, or the Admiralty, respectively, for pensions on the largest term—that is to say, pensions to men and to widows and dependants.

Can it be that Lord Crewe forgot that the parents, younger brothers and sisters, and other dependent relatives, are excluded from the Government pensions scheme which only applies to wives, "unmarried wives," and children?

Certainly the mothers and other relatives ought not to have been excluded, their pensions ought to have been treated in exactly the same way as those of the wives and children, and should have been on the same scale.

It is not too late to ask that this should yet be done.

We have urged ever since the question was first raised, that parents should have the allowances of wives, and that the young brothers and sisters should be treated as though they were children of a soldier or sailor. The League of Rights for Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives and Relatives, which is composed entirely of the women concerned, makes the same demand.

The question of pensions for dependent relatives who are as yet unprovided for, and that of supplementary allowances for persons already drawing separation allowances or pensions, are two distinct matters and should be separately considered.

Lord Crewe told the House of Lords that the supplementary allowances are made, "not so much in relation to the presumed national obligation towards the individual, as in respect of the particular needs of the individual, owing to his or her private circumstances." He added "in some cases it has been thought desirable to give, for instance, the widow of a man who has through his own exertions a considerable income, a pension of £100 a year."

For a woman who has lived comfortably, it is very hard to be deprived of the power to give a liberal education to her children, and to find herself brought down with them to the bare subsistence level of the ordinary military or naval pension, especially as the subsistence obtainable under the allowance is becoming more and more meagre, owing to the rise in the cost of living. But all the women who have lost husbands, sons, and fathers during the war, are human beings, and until all are secured from want, there ought to be no talk of making extra allowances to some. In any case, we do not like favouritism. There is too much of that sort of thing in life already.

A clause in the Pensions Bill which has not received the publicity that it ought to have, is that which gives the Statutory Committee power

> "to decide in any particular case whether as respects a wife, widow, child, or other dependent, any pension, or grant, or separation allowance and, as respects an officer or man, any supplementary grant has, under the regulations subject to which it was granted, become forfeited."

We are continually protesting against this clause, for, in our view the pensions and allowances should be the absolute property of those entitled to them. It ought not to be possible to take them away for any cause.

We object further to the entire form of the Statutory Committee and the local committees. We consider that the people to whom the important work before these committees is entrusted should be popularly elected representatives, and, as such, obliged to bow to the popular will, as expressed by soldiers' and sailors' wives and mothers with voting power, as well as by other sections of the community.

We recommend that the Government should at once place the soldiers' and sailors' dependent relatives in the position of wives and children and bring forward a new Bill, cast in an entirely new and thoroughly democratic spirit to deal with the other questions that need adjustment.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

WHAT SATISFIES THE WAR OFFICE!

Callous Treatment of Sweated Women!

On August 5th we wrote to complain that Clinger's, of Mare Street, Hackney, were paying 4/9 a dozen for making and finishing soldiers' shirts, which is equivalent to paying 2 4½d. per dozen for making and 2 4½d. for finishing. We have had to complain of this firm before in regard to the making of soldiers' trousers.

On October 16th, more than two months after we wrote, we received a letter from the Assistant Director of Army Contracts, saying, "the rates paid by this firm are such as do satisfy the requirements of the Fair Wages Clause in War Office Contracts."

Our comment on this reply is that it is a scandal that such disgracefully low rates should satisfy the War Office. We cannot allow the matter to rest where it is.

Some time ago we wrote to the War Office in regard to Maconochie's, of Silvertown, who pay adult women 13/9 a week, for trucking, working from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., and pushing trucks weighing 50 and 75 lbs.

We received a reply from the War Office asking us if we knew of any firm that paid for this work at a higher rate. We replied that Clarke's, of Limehouse, pay men 22/- a week for the same work.

The Assistant Director of Army Contracts then replied that the fact that Clarke's were paying more was no evidence that Maconochie's were infringing the Fair Wages Resolution.

It seems that the Assistant Director of Army Contracts requires stirring up.

We shall endeavour to do it!

Messrs. Clarke and Sons, Thomas Street, Limehouse, biscuit manufacturers, are employing women to do men's work at a lower wage. The following resolution has been passed at an enthusiastic meeting of the Gas Workers' and General Labourers' Trade Union, and the agitation is going on:—

"That the employees of Messrs. Clarke and Sons, appeal to the Executive Council to take steps to get an increase of wage for all employees, and if we fail to get satisfaction from the firm, that we ask to be allowed to withdraw our labour, and if this is granted by our Executive we pledge ourselves to stand by each other until we get what we ask for."

We are glad to state that as a result of our exposure of the conditions at Lusty's Soup Co., at Poplar, 1s. a week rise has been given to the women. This is a paltry increase. We look for more and have informed the War Office of what happens at Lusty's.

If the landlord insures the house against air raids the property of the tenants is not protected unless *they* also insure. A poor widow in Bow lives always in great poverty. She has a daughter of 16 and two other children aged two and five. The daughter earns 6/- a week, the mother goes out charing, but charing is difficult to get in East London now that prices are so high, and in the week of the last big air raid she only earned 1s. 7d. On the night of the air raid, October 13th, a bullet from one of the anti-aircraft guns burst its way through the wall of her room and passed down through the floor. In passing, it smashed up her only bedstead, value 10s., her clock, value 3s., and made a hole in the oilcloth on the floor, damage 3s. Sixteen shillings is not a very large sum, but it is a fortune to this poor woman, and she has no redress.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* reports that protests are being made in France, because women are being engaged to do men's work at lower pay. It reports that contractors are the worst offenders, many seamstresses being unable to make more than 1/- or 1/2 for 15 hours work. It also states that the Paris City Council compelled one of the district railway companies to raise the women's wages.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

The women of Alberta, Canada, expect to be Voters before the new year.

The Liberal Government, which is introducing the Women's Suffrage Bill, has a large majority, so that there is no reason to doubt that the Bill will pass.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Sefton, has announced that the Bill will "place men and women on a basis of absolute equality so far as provincial matters are concerned," but the Bill will do more than that, because by an Act passed by the Canadian Dominion Parliament at Ottawa in 1897, the possession of the provincial vote qualifies for the Dominion vote.

The *Toronto Globe* states as its opinion that "other Provinces will no doubt fall rapidly into line, and in a few years, perhaps months, people will be wondering why the reform hung fire so long."

In New Zealand women got the vote in 1893. In Australia the process of enfranchising women began in 1894, and was completed in 1898. It is therefore only natural that Canada should be falling into line with the other Overseas Dominions.

A great Votes for Women Procession will take place in Philadelphia, U.S.A., on October 22nd.

The Women teachers of a town called Independence, in the State of Missouri, U.S.A., are refusing to pay their taxes till they get the vote.

Mayor Riddle of Atlantic City has erected a sign on the Riddle building site with the following inscription:—

"The owner of this lot believes in Woman Suffrage and so does any man who remembers a good mother. Vote for Suffrage October 19th."

In San Francisco a great Women Voters Convention has been held, at which there have been 3,000 women delegates representing 4,000,000 women voters of the American Suffrage States. A resolution calling on the Congress to pass an amendment to the United States Constitution enfranchising all the women, was adopted, and two women, Miss Frances Jolliffe and Mrs. Sara Bard Field, were deputed to carry it to the President. They set off on the long journey from California to Washington in a motor car, bought for the purpose by two women who are ardent in the cause, and driven by one of them.

The Danish National Association for Women's Suffrage has reorganised in order to help in winning Votes for Women in other lands.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

DREADNOUGHT FUND.—Mrs. Coates Hansen 3.0.0, Mrs. Garner 1.0.0, Mrs. Hickmott 10.0, Miss A. Cannon 5.0, Mrs. Herzberg 5.0.

GENERAL FUND.—G.M. 3.10.0, Profits on Joint Social 2.18.6, Collection at Memorial Meeting 2.7.8¼, Anon — Aminabad Park, Lucknow 2.0.0, per Miss P. L. Rickards 1.10.0, Mrs. Lancaster 1.0.0, Miss D. Hollins 1.0.0, Mrs. Garner (5.0 weekly) 10.0, Mr. and Mrs. Darley 7.0, Mrs. G. Lansbury 5.0, Collections Poplar 3.8, Collections Hackney 2.7½, Profits on Poplar Library 2.1, Collection Members' General Meeting 1.5½, Miss Bell 1.0, Collection Victoria Park 0.7½, Miss Morris 0.6.

MILK AND GENERAL DISTRESS.—Mrs. Rufus Isaacs 10.10.0, Mrs. Caird 10.10.0, Mrs. T. W. Hellyer 5.0.0, Miss E. A. Carter 3.0.0, Miss F. Crompton Walker 2.10.0, Mrs. Bentinck 2.2.0, Arthur Ackland, Esq 2.2.0, Messrs. J. Gliksten & Son (monthly) 2.0.0, Miss C. L. A. Lloyd 2.0.0, Toolroom—L.S.A. 1.12.1½, Mrs. Eric Carter 1.1.0, Mrs. J. Paul Impey 1.1.0, Will D. Perrins, Esq. 1.0.0, Miss Weir 1.0.0, Mrs. Garner 1.0.0, Mrs. E. J. Harrold 1.0.0, Women Clerks of the Board of Education, per Miss Hill 1.0.0, Mrs. Foord 1.0.0, R. H. Pott, Esq 1.0.0, Employees of Messrs. Comptons 18.3½, Stocking Dept.—L.S.A. 16.6, Miss M. Palfrey 16.0, Miss C. H. Warren 10.0, Miss Getsam 10.0, Miss C. J. Cuttle 10.0, W. Wickham, Esq 10.0, Miss Flora Hodges 10.0, Miss M. Macfarland 10.0, Mrs. Allen 10.0, per Mrs. Parr 6.6, Miss H. C. Newcomb 5.0, per Mrs. F. Skelton 5.0, Miss Simonds 5.0, Mrs. Heywood Bright (weekly) 5.0, Mrs. D. L. Empson (monthly) 5.0, Miss E. M. Morgan (monthly) 5.0, Mrs. E. M. Morrison (monthly) 5.0, Miss Helen Wing 5.0, Miss J. T. Dreury 3.1½, per Mrs. Hickmott 3.0, Mrs. Barfield 2.6, Miss D. L. Dubock (monthly) 2.6, Wm. Fitz-Henry, Esq 2.6, Mrs. Simpson (weekly) 2.6, F. S. Staines, Esq 2.6, Mrs. C. H. Phillips 2.6, Miss D. Mockford 2.6, Miss Platt 2.6, per Mrs. Lehmann 2.3½, Miss M. Osmond (weekly) 2.0, Miss Green 2.0, Mrs. E. V. Bullock (0.6 weekly) 1.6, A Friend per Miss Dubock 1.0, Miss J. Nixon 1.0, Mrs. King 0.6.

COLLECTIONS. — Nursery 1.1.1¾, Misses Morley & Manicom 19.0, Mrs. Drake 13.1½, Miss Gatward 5.5, Bow Milk 1.3.0, collected in Nursery pillar-box 2.3½.

List of Clothing, etc., held over for lack of space.

EQUALITY OF SACRIFICE!

In the debate on the Finance Bill, on October 13th, Mr. Lough said that the import duty on cinema films was due to the agitation by the Amalgamated Press and the Associated Newspapers, and that one of the directors of the Company was also a director of an English film manufacturing company, whilst another had shares in one.

Mr. Lough said that when he heard that War profits were to be taxed he thought, "The Chancellor of the Exchequer is a fine fellow; he is proposing something that will tax the Government," because the salaries of half the Government have gone up through the War from £400 a year to £2,000 or £5,000 a year. But when he looked at the Bill he saw that Cabinet Ministers' salaries were exempt. Neither doctors nor lawyers would have their excess War profits taxed under the Bill, and, as a reason for this, he pointed out that "nearly all the Liberal Members of the Government are lawyers." In view of the serious rise in the price of food, and the fact that the price of wheat and cattle have doubled in this country, it might have been expected that those who have made big War profits out of these things should be expected to pay something, to relieve from the burden of further taxation those who have had to suffer by paying more for their food. "One would have thought," said Mr. Lough, "that all those people who were producers of wheat in large quantities would have had to pay. *But we have had a great landed interest added to the Government* within the last three months. Is it owing to the presence of that landed interest in the Government that agriculture is altogether exempt?"

Trade Union v. Limited Company.

This was logical enough, but Mr. Lough then essayed the difficult task of proving that "there is no difference in principle between a trade union and a limited company"—an amazing proposition!

He explained his view thus: "A thousand people with a hundred pounds each put their money together, and so you get a hundred thousand pounds capital. These people have to live on what they get out of the company. . . . The shareholders in the limited company may not be able to earn nearly so much as the class represented by hon. Members below the gangway."

Quite so, Mr. Lough.

We all know that the interest on *one* hundred pounds is not likely to be enough to keep anyone. But the point is not *how much* they get, but *how* they get it, and what they do for it. The members of trade unions, the workers in the factories and workshops of the world, toil for the money they earn, and by their toil produce wealth for the whole community. The owners of shares in limited companies do no work for the interest that they draw, and those who create wealth are obliged to work in order to make it possible to pay the interest to the shareholder.

Mr. Lough had a glimmering of the weakness of his position when he said that many of the class who live as shareholders, or in other words, on the labour of others, had done their share of fighting in the War. Fighting, however, does not produce wealth, and even if it did, the drawing of interest can hardly be called doing a fair share of the Nation's work at ordinary times.

The Moneylenders.

Mr. Phillip Snowden said that if the Government intended, during the War, to raise only enough money by taxation to pay the interest on money borrowed to pay the expenses of the War, "it will make economic reconstruction, when peace returns, an almost impossible thing to accomplish." He urged that the matter was one of national interest, and that the only people in the community who could benefit by the policy of paying for the War by borrowing money at interest, were the people who had money to lend. A man who invested £10,000 in Government stock before the War got £325 a year in interest. If he invested the same amount in Government Stock now it would bring in £450, and even deducting the higher income tax, he would gain £67 a year.

As the rate of interest on money lent to the Government had been raised, the rate of interest on money lent to Municipalities must be raised still more, and to private industrial enterprises still more again, or people would not lend. Already, he had heard that one English Municipality had had a notice that capital invested in one of its enterprises would be withdrawn, and if this had to be replaced at 4½ per cent. interest it would mean an increase of 5d. in the local rates.

Mr. Snowden complained that the workers of the Nation are paying "a tremendous impost" of something like four hundred million pounds a year, though the cost of living has risen by 40 per cent.

Farmers had many loopholes of escape from taxation. Mr. Snowden knew of one farmer who had never paid one penny of income tax, although his average profits for many years had been over £1,500 a year. Farmers should be assessed on the same footing as other people, and the Special Schedule B ought to be abolished, in order that this might be done.

Tax Capital.

Mr. Snowden advocated a tax on capital. He said that the rich who own the capital wealth of the country are not paying more than one-half of one per cent. out of their total capital wealth. He suggested that capital value below £1,000 should be exempted altogether. Then the tax should be graded, beginning at 1 per cent. A tax graded so as to rise to 10 per cent. on amounts of a million, would bring in revenue of five hundred million pounds.

How much better this than starving out the poor! Mr. Snowden asked why it was possible in War time for a small portrait to be sold for £35,000, and handkerchiefs to be on sale in Bond Street at £20 the half-dozen. He pointed out that whilst the Chancellor of the Exchequer had insisted that the rich have obligations; the poor have obligations too, and "the country would suffer far less by the rich being compelled to break their obligations than by the poor being compelled to break theirs."

Injustice to Small Incomes.

Mr. Snowden and Mr. Dillon pointed out that the increase in income tax is bearing very much more hardly on the people with small incomes than on those with great ones. Mr. Snowden instanced the case of a man with one child and an income of £182 a year. Before the Budget he got abatement of £160 and £20 for the child, so he had only to pay tax on £2. This, at 1s. 6d. in the £, made 3s.

Now he gets only abatement of £25 for the child, and has to pay tax on £37 at 2s. 1d. in the £; *i.e.*, £3 17s. 1d.

Mr. Dillon said that a person who has £10,000 to £8,000 a year pays 27 per cent. increase in income tax. A person who has £3,000 a year pays 40 per cent. increase, and that those who have incomes of £160 to £300 pay 400, 500, and 600 per cent. more than they did before. He quoted a letter from a teacher, who wrote:—

"The rich must be spared, whoever suffers. What sacrifice does the £5,000 a year man make when he pays £975? None at all. It is no sacrifice to give up superfluities. The sacrifice begins when the ordinary comforts of life have to be surrendered."

And from a lady, who wrote:—

"I do not think it is being realised that while the percentage of increase in the Income Tax on this Budget to a man earning £8,000 a year is 27 per cent., to a man earning £300 a year it is 80 per cent.; and while a man earning £300 paid £5 5s. in 1913, and £10 10s. in 1914, he will now pay £18 18s., while a man earning £8,000, who paid last year £1,479 will now pay £1,879."

It is a sign of the times that women's opinions, even on finance, are found to be useful in the House of Commons. When are we going to get those Votes?

Sir G. Younger raised complaints on the part of the bankers. But the Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. Montagu) said:—"I want to assure him that there is no intention of doing anything which meets with the considered opposition of the bankers in this respect."

Those who hold the purse strings are very powerful, and the Government, whose antecedents and sympathies are all with the monied classes, do not disguise the fact that they are determined that the interests of the monied classes shall be paramount, however much the poor may have to suffer.

THE FIGHT AGAINST THE LANDLORDS.

On October 14th, Mr. Yeo, member for Poplar, protested against the raising of house rents. He declared that in effect landlords had said to the men at the front—"We are proud of you. You are fighting to keep us from German invasion. To show our appreciation of what you are doing at the front, we have decided in your absence to raise your rent 1s. a week or to turn your dependants into the street." As in many districts the rates had been reduced by 2d., 3d,, and 4d. in the £, there was the less excuse for raising rents.

In a street from which twenty-nine men had gone to the front the following notice was served:

"In consequence of the extraordinary demand of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and to meet the enormous expense of the War, we are reluctantly compelled to revise the rent of our houses."

Mr. Rowlands mentioned a case in Erith where the landlord raised the rents from 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. a week last December, and last month notified an additional rise, so that these houses are now 12s. weekly.

Mr. Barnes quoted an instance of a Glasgow landlord sending the following letter to a tenant:—

"Dear Madam,—The Government having increased the tax on property by 1s. 3d. in the £, for the present year, I beg to give notice that I am obliged to increase the rent of the house occupied by you from £19 to £21 per annum."

This means an increase of more than 2s. in the £ for the tenant!

Another case was that in Wolverhampton of a woman receiving notice to quit unless she paid 1s. a week increase on a 5s. rental—she has seven children and her husband is at the front.

In Plymouth the rents of tenement rooms are raised 6d. per room per week! At Bristol, Chatham and Eastbourne rents are being increased, and in Coventry, where there is a large number of munition workers, rents of municipal houses have risen from 3s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. per week.

Mr. Barnes read a letter from the Rothwell District Council saying that an order had been made for closing two houses which were beyond repair, but the inspector had reported that there were no unoccupied houses for the tenants to move into, and that the rents had been raised from 4s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. a week.

Members of Parliament declared that the landlords' action was having a bad effect on recruiting. Mr. Barnes said people were getting "sick and tired" of being talked to about equality of sacrifice.

The Secretary for Scotland (Mr. McKinnon Wood) said that he would appoint a small committee for Scotland to inquire into the matter.

Dr. Addison said that in Munition areas it would be fair for the Ministry of Munitions to make some contribution to help Municipalities to provide extra housing accommodation, and that arrangements had been made with certain local authorities. But, though he was asked to do so, he refused to say what proportion of the cost the Ministry of Munitions would contribute.

Mr. Will Thorne and others asked what would be done to prevent rents being raised.

Dr. Addison would give no definite reply except that nothing could be done outside Munition areas.

Mr. Thorne said: "If it were a question of the workers going away from work, you would deal with them pretty soon!"

Dr. Addison tried to make the House believe that all difficulties would be smoothed away, and that rents would at once fall because of the extra housing accommodation which was to be secured by the help of the Ministry of Munitions. But even whilst the question was being debated, the matter was also under discussion in the Glasgow City Council, and a proof of the falsity or gross incompetence of the Government then appeared. A letter was read from the Local Government Board, stating that the Government proposed to introduce a considerable number of munition workers into the city, and that from inquiries already made the Government was of opinion that these workers could be accommodated in the existing housing of the city. Yet it is in Glasgow that some of the most serious rent trouble has arisen!

On Saturday, 16th October, large and enthusiastic meetings were held in front of houses where warrants of eviction against the tenants had become due.

A telegram was received from Mr. Lloyd George saying that he had no power to intervene.

However, as the people of Glasgow have intervened to protect the tenants, no attempt has been made to put the eviction warrants into force.

It is quite clear that tenants will get no protection from the Government. Tenants must organise to protect themselves!

Tooting landlords have been made to withdraw their notices. Glasgow landlords have been checked. The same success will follow determined action in every district!

Remember that the landlord cannot turn you out without an order from a magistrate under the Emergency Courts Act, and you will have the right to appear in Court to defend yourself when he applies for the order.

Poplar landlords are following the lead of those in West Ham and other districts. Mr. Kelly, East India Dock Road, has raised the rents in Bloomfield Street and Railway Street; on houses rented at 10s. 6d. he has put 6d.; on houses rented at 10s. he has put 1s.; on houses rented at 8s. 6d. he has put 1s.; and 6d. on houses rented at 12s.

Mr. Boot, St. Leonard's Road, has put 1s. on 10s. houses.

Mr. Hipkin has put 6d. on 9s. 6d. houses in Flint Street.

Notices have been served on the tenants of certain tenements rented at 4/- a week in Clerkenwell, that the rents will be raised 3d. a week.

Residents in tenements over shops are obliged to pay 5s. if they wish to insure against damage by aircraft, whereas private dwellings pay 2s. premium. Many very poor people have rooms over little shops.

E.L.F.S. members tender sincere sympathy to Mrs. Husted on the loss of her husband, who died on October 12th; also to Mrs. Crabb, whose father died on October 12th.

WOMAN'S HALL, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow. :: PUBLIC MEETING, Sunday, Oct. 31st, at 7 p.m.

To form a branch of the Women's International League (for permanent peace). Admission Free.

SUNDAY MEETINGS, OCTOBER 24th. :: ::

POPLAR WOMEN'S HALL, 8 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Drake and others. :: 124 BARKING ROAD, Canning Town, 3.30 p.m., PUBLIC MEETING.

TWO-COURSE MEALS FOR 3d.

Those who already frequent our Cost-Price Restaurant at 400 Old Ford Road should tell their friends and fellow-workers about it. We supply a two-course dinner for 3d., children 1½d.; 12—2 p.m. Customers say that workers do not know about our Restaurant, and that it is a great boon to get such a good, hot meal when away from home.

EAST LONDON FEDERATION OF THE SUFFRAGETTES.

OBJECTS: To secure the Parliamentary Vote for every Woman over 21, and to promote the Social and Industrial Welfare of Women.

Entrance Fee...1d. Subscription...1d. a Month

BRANCH REPORTS.

BOW.

400 OLD FORD ROAD, BOW.

A good meeting was held at Osborne St. on Sunday morning, 78 papers being sold. The meeting in Victoria Park was very well attended, and Mrs. Greer and Miss Bennett are thanked for selling there—between them they disposed of 54 papers. Other members are asked to help in this way.

Miss Gatwood and Miss Bailey are thanked for playing at the club on Monday, and we were glad to welcome the Poplar members.

Members are requested to support the meetings on Tuesday at 3 p.m., the Sunday meeting in the Park at 3.30 p.m., and the debate on Friday evenings at 8 p.m.

Dreadnoughts sold week ending Oct. 16th — 1,117. Miss Lynch 256, Miss Smyth 195, Miss O'Brien 156, Miss Bennett 142, Mrs. Greer 48. City and District—Mrs. Holloway 229.

POPLAR.

THE WOMEN'S HALL, 20 RAILWAY ST.

Secretary: MRS. DRAKE.

Business meeting was held on Tuesday evening, and the Members' Social was decided on. Members are asked to make this known among their friends. Tickets 3d. each—Saturday, Oct. 30th, 7.30 p.m. sharp. Dancing and singing. Refreshments at moderate prices. This is a pleasant way of assisting the funds which are very much needed.

Collections in Poplar—Miss Morley and Miss E. Lagsding 14s. 7d., Miss Manicom 8s. 3½d., Mrs. Drake 16s. 4d.

Dreadnoughts sold week ending Oct. 16—383; Miss Bennett 74, Mrs. Shlette—55. Distributed—500.

Two excellent meetings held at Dock Gates and Copenhagen Place on Sunday morning. Chair, Miss Bennett. Speaker, Miss Manicom. Over 60 papers sold.

HACKNEY.

Offices: 175 DALSTON LANE

(Facing Hackney Downs Station).

Papers can be obtained at this address at any time.

Good meeting held on Tuesday afternoon the 12th. Miss Price was thanked for her interesting speech on Trade Unions.

We shall probably have a stall in Well St. on Saturdays to sell *Dreadnoughts* and advertise our meetings. Who will help? A stall is an excellent way of making our work known, and of increasing the circulation of the *Dreadnought*.

Dreadnought sales:— Miss Sand 12. General sales—12. Total—24. This is very poor, we must do much better than that.

SOUTH WEST HAM.

Centre for Tidal Basin: 55 FIFE ROAD.

Hon. Sec.—MRS. DAISY PARSONS, 94 Ravenscroft Road.

We have had good meetings to work up the big Memorial Meeting. On Thursday, Miss Lynch spoke, and on Friday, Mr. Franklin addressed the Beckton Road meeting. We are indebted to the Misses Smyth and Bailey, Mrs. Holloway and Mr. Ernest Johncock, for their energetic canvassing, billing and *Dreadnought* selling. All the members are thanked for their splendid work during the past week. The Public Hall meeting was a great success, and the collection was £2 7s. 8½d. Now please attend and pay up subscriptions, which, in some cases, are four months overdue, and be ready for the next piece of work!

166 *Dreadnoughts* sold during the week.

WEST CENTRAL BRANCH,

8 HART STREET, BLOOMSBURY.

Although the West Central Branch of the E.L.F.S. has only been opened a week, it has not done badly, and has had encouraging remarks and compliments given; but pretty words to baby will not make it walk, if it is not fed. Well! please come and feed the shop with money, by buying the beautiful E.L.F.S. toys, and also subscribing to the great paper of England—The *Dreadnought*. We can send it you, weekly, from our West Central branch.

Paper sellers, offers for poster parade, and other help is wanted.

Subscriptions have been received with thanks from—Friends from the East £2 12s. Miss Janie Allan £1, Mrs. Mansell-Moullin 10s., Miss Newcomb 5s., Mrs. Boase 2s. 6d. and rug, Miss Willis (St. Leonards) 2s. 6d., Mrs. M. 2s. 6d., Mrs. Imbach (Liverpool) 2s. 6d. Dr. Tchaykovsky has promised 1s. a week towards the rent. Who will follow her example?

E.L.F.S. GENERAL MEETING.

At a General Meeting of the E.L.F.S. on Monday, October 18th, it was decided to affiliate to the Women's International League for Permanent Peace, and to form a branch of the British Section.

E.L.F.S. MEMBERS' : MONTHLY SOCIAL,

POPLAR WOMEN'S HALL, 20 Railway Street, Poplar, E. SATURDAY, Oct. 30th, at 7.30. Admission 3d. Music. Dancing. Refreshments at Popular Prices.

A LETTER FROM JENNY PETERSEN, in DENMARK.

Dear DREADNOUGHT,—I am going to write you an autumn letter. I ought to have written long before, but, whatever the reasons have been, I have not done it. However, to-day I received from England a certain paper that made me think very much of you, and because of it I have now taken my pen in hand, and am writing away!

I have every reason to call this an autumn letter, both because this is the autumn season and because the letter is so late. In my language we compare anything which is late with autumn.

I suppose you know that one of the strongest Danish national characteristics is the determination to establish one's self in life—or, as we say, "to get one's feet under one's own mahogany"—and if you saw the surroundings here you would never doubt that this is a strong feeling in us. Here are hundreds of houses scattered irregularly amongst gardens, and the best of these houses is that the people who own them live in them. The owners are all working people from the mills, railway station, and harbour of Aarhus. Dictated by the wish to live as free people, the workers buy a piece of land out here and build their own dwellings, which they plan as they like, and according to their own idea of what a house should be. Not one of these houses is like another, though there are four hundred of them! As it is here, so it is all over Denmark.

A few years ago this place all belonged to one man; now the State has taken control of it, saying to the people: "Here is land, will you have it?" And instead of paying rent to the landlord in town for a flat, not always well built or in good repair, one can borrow money from the National Bank, buy land of one's own, and build one's own house.

After their day's work men and women come out here to fresh air and beautiful surroundings—a garden full of flowers and vegetables, and a home which is their own. I, too, am living in my own house, and now I am sitting in my own room looking out over the landscape. In the West, over there, just where the sun is setting, lies London. Oh, how I wish that you could see this place, and live as we live here. There would be no East End, with poor insanitary houses; no illness; no hungry children; no dusty, dirty slums. The sun can easily find its way into every corner here—we have left room for it—it cannot do so in East London. But here there is no "West End" either. We have no extremes, either of wealth or poverty. We are all equals, living on equal terms, and having neither more nor less than each other.

The sun is setting—that means a world of poesy. The air is still, and everything seems clearer than at other times of the day. Little by little the light gets a golden glance; the sky grows red, with a slight cast of purple. The children playing in the field get hair like little angels, and their rosy cheeks get something of the hue of these from the south. Indeed, these fair children are all like the southerners, because of their life out in the sun and air the year round. They are running—catching each other, laughing, singing. They think that life is all as golden as this evening. It is not so for everyone, but these children, when they grow up, may get a little house of their own like their parents. For people here it seems indeed that life may be golden, for they may enjoy beautiful nature and freedom, which is the best of life.

After the sun has gone and the twilight comes, everything grows quiet; it brings the rest to the nerves that working men and women need after a tiring day.

Fifty years ago the work was started by the "land for the people" agitation, and, in time, the land shall be won for the people everywhere. All over the world the people will learn to claim their right. To-day, in Denmark, it is said that every Danish child is born with a piece of land; and that will one day be said all over the world. Throughout the whole community, a healthier and sounder state of mind, as well as of body, will be developed as a result.

As long as men and women are working to uplift their fellow creatures, and as long as the claim for justice continues to be made, victory is sure to come.

I know that the good work is still going on in East London, and that, as long as the DREADNOUGHT lives, the claim for justice will be put well before the minds of people in the East End, and also in the West part of life, which is really, after all, the poorest part in the world, because of its narrow prejudices.

I remember that, in DREADNOUGHT, No. 5, there was an account of the Danish Domestic Workers' Trade Union; now I will tell you a little about it.—Its basis is to unite the domestic servants in one strong body, so that they may not remain thousands of poor, isolated, unorganised, miserable, frightened creatures.

It has been hard work to make the young girls understand what a backbone such a trade union is. They began by trembling, for fear of their mistresses, when asked to become members; and in many cases servants have been dismissed for joining. But now we are fast coming to the point when there will be no servants to be had who are not members of the trade union, or, some may be found who do not belong to it, they will be looked down upon as blacklegs.

Mistresses, too, are coming round more and more to see that the most reliable girls are in the union.

The union does more than attend merely to wages, hours, and conditions. It realises that as soon as a young girl begins to work for her living her education is stopped, and so the leaders of the union step in. They gather the girls together, talk to them, read the papers to them, and tell them what is happening in the world, so that they may learn to keep abreast with the times, and that their power of thinking for themselves may be developed.

All this gives the young people a sane and healthy outlook on life; their daily work does not seem so hard, and the habit of feeling like a slave cannot even be thought of.

The last should always be the best—and the last part of my letter shall be about the Vote! We women are all citizens here now. On June 5th a resolution was carried through and established, which made Denmark one of the free-est countries in Europe to-day. No country can be called in any way free, unless women, as well as men, enjoy the same liberty. Yes, we have won the Vote—we never doubted we should win it. How could we? In a civilised land, where men and women are educated equally, there is no reason why they should not have the same rights. The men who sat in Parliament, with the power to give or withhold our rights, never imagined for one minute that any harm could come of women's enfranchisement. No, quite the opposite; one of the leading Members said: "We long for the women to help to arrange things with us; there is much we need them in; there are many things in which we are dependent upon them, and which only they can carry through."

You may be sure that we women, now we have won the Vote, feel our burden of responsibility. We have taken an equal half of the burden with the men, and we are determined to know how to lift it. The burden will be light to us, because we shall love the work that has been given to us.

In beginning my letter I told you that getting a certain paper from London made me write to you to-day. That paper was not the DREADNOUGHT, but it had an article about me and the time I was with the E.L.F.S. in London. The article is not exactly correct in what it says, indeed it rather misrepresents some things; but it says that I wore the button—"E.L.F.S." I am proud to have worn the white E.L.F.S. button, and I often put it on at home here—looking at myself. And of all the people I have been fond of in the world, I love those most who wore that white button.

It is strange that the article should be just appearing now. But though it is not all true, there are true things in it, and anyone who knows what a Suffragette is will see what is fun and what is earnestness. The writer is an Irishman, and I knew him to be a good man, doing splendid work amongst the poor people down in a part of Bow.

I often think of the DREADNOUGHT stalls. How are they going on? When I have a nice dream, I dream of the Roman Road, with its many colours—yellow and red, fruits, and busy people—and no end of excitements; and of the DREADNOUGHT stall; and I dream then that we are selling thousands of DREADNOUGHTS. I am very sorry, both for myself and you, that it is only a dream! I am wondering whether the War has had any effect upon the Roman Road—whether it is just as busy as ever, or whether it is dark and quiet. Oh, this frightful War—as if there was not suffering enough in the world before!

I often think of Poplar, because I spent most of my time there. It was so funny to see the picture of "The Babies" in the DREADNOUGHT, and, sure enough, it was Mrs. Shlette who was shining amongst them all. Was it not?

I shall soon write to you again, and perhaps some of you will care to ask me questions about things here. I shall only be too glad to answer.

TO CANNING TOWN MEMBERS OF THE E.L.F.S.

DEAR MEMBERS,

Your meetings have always been on Thursdays, but this has become a very awkward day, because Miss Beamish, who is helping Mrs. Parsons with the organising work, is obliged to be at other meetings which cannot be changed on both the afternoon and evening of that day, and it would be a great drawback if Miss Beamish were not able to be at your meetings.

Therefore I hope members will make a point of being present at 124 Barking Road, at 3 in the afternoon, on Thursday, 28th October, to decide another day for the meeting.

In November it will be the turn of the Canning Town Branch to arrange the E.L.F.S. Members' Monthly Social Gatherings, which is held the last Saturday in each month.

The Canning Town Branch made a very great success of the last social it arranged, and we hope that the next one will be better still.

Several good ideas have been suggested which will be put before the members at the next branch meeting.

Yours in the cause,

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

If you would like to be an M.P. for a night come to—

Parliamentary Debate.

Friday, Oct. 22nd, 8 p.m., at 400 Old Ford Road, Bow.

Public Meeting.—BROTHERHOOD INSTITUTE HALL, Norwood, Thursday, Oct. 28th, 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss S. Pankhurst; Chair: Rev. S. Franklin. Admission 3d. Collection for E.L.F.S. Funds.

COME AND HEAR

Mr. HENRY W. NEVINSON,

(War Correspondent just returned from Gallipoli.)

DESCRIBE

"A DAY IN THE DARDANELLES"

IN THE

PORTMAN ROOMS,

BAKER STREET, W.

On SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24th, at 5 p.m.

Doors open at 4.15.

Chair: Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE

Reserved Seats 2/6 and 1/-, from the Ticket Sec., UNITED SUFFRAGISTS, 27 Chancery Lane, W.C.

ADMISSION FREE.

Bromides and birthday cards—two a penny. To be had at the Cash Drug Stores, 224 Roman Road, E.

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